

INTELLOMAX 21

# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Jasmunder Boddan Harbor Construction Project

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1. On 21 April 1952, the manager of the VEB Industrial Projects in Rostock received a telegram from Mayer, State Secretary of the Soviet Zone Ministry of Reconstruction in Berlin, ordering him to wind up his affairs in Rostock and come to Berlin to discuss the Jasmunder Bodden harbor construction project. State Secretary Mayer stated that the war in Korea has shown that the Soviet Air Force is as strong as the western air forces and that it is now necessary to build up the Soviet Navy to equal strength of the western powers. Therefore, by order of the Soviet occupation authorities, the Jasmunder Bodden harbor must be improved for the Soviet Navy as quickly as possible.
2. The manager of the VEB Industrial Projects in Rostock was appointed manager of the entire Jasmunder Bodden project and will be assisted by a construction staff with special powers. This staff will become priority enterprise No 1 and will work under the supervision of State Secretary Mayer and Walter Ulbricht, secretary general of the SED and Deputy Minister President.
3. The new manager of the special construction staff was given unlimited authority to employ construction and hydraulic engineers and technicians from any construction project in the Soviet Zone to work on the Jasmunder Bodden harbor project. At his request, most of the key specialists of the VEB Industrial Projects in Rostock will be transferred to his staff. \*\*
4. State Secretary Mayer ordered the new manager to proceed immediately to Binz on Ruegen to set up offices and quarters for the special construction staff. The headquarters of this staff will be located in East-Berlin.
5. State Secretary Mayer and the new manager of the special construction staff decided to hold a conference in East-Berlin on 1 May 1952 to discuss the project. This conference was to be attended by several officers of the Soviet Occupation Force, Deputy Minister President Walter Ulbricht, a representative of the SED central committee, Willi Stoph, head of the Office for economic questions, State Secretary Mayer of the Reconstruction Ministry and the new manager of the special construction staff. \*\*\*

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6. The new manager of the special construction staff told the VEB Industrial Projects in Rostock that in late 1951, previous documents and plans on the harbor construction project Jasmunder Bodden, prepared by the German Navy during the period from 1937 to 1939, had been found at the Greifswald University. He stated that this would save two years of calculations, survey and research work and that it would be possible to conclude the planning work and start construction work at a comparatively early date.
7. The manager of the special construction staff stated that Inspector General Waldemar Verner, chief of the Sea Police, is greatly interested in the Jasmunder Bodden harbor construction project but as yet has not been asked to attend the conferences.

25X1 \*   Comment. According to available information, the Maritime Hydrographic Service surveyed the Jasmunder Bodden area and a coastal area east of Glowe in January 1952. On 24 April 1952, the surveying vessel Hydrograph of the Maritime Hydrographic Service in Stralsund proceeded from Stralsund to the Tromper Wick for surveying operations. The vessel was to take soundings in front of the approaches to the mouth of the future canal near Glowe on Ruegen.

25X1 \*\*   Comment. The same source reported that State Secretary Mayer issued an order to recruit civil engineers and hydraulic engineers in Western Germany to fill vacancies left by Soviet Zone engineers who went to Ruegen Island.

25X1 \*\*\*   Comment. **Willi Stoph**, formerly chief of the Office for Economic Questions in the SED Central Committee, was appointed Minister for Home Affairs in the Soviet Zone of Germany, after Dr. Karl Steinhoff, the previous Minister for Home Affairs, resigned. State Secretary Mayer is head of the Construction Department of the Ministry for Reconstruction.

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